

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A method for producing electrical cables comprising an electric conductor coated with an insulating layer of cross-linked polyethylene, in which a polyethylene granulate is mixed with a liquid silane-containing cross-linking agent, the granulate mixture thus prepared is melted in an extruder and extruded onto the electrical conductor, and the extruded coating is cross-linked in the presence of water or steam, wherein said polyethylene granulate comprises a polyethylene homopolymer and a copolymer of ethylene, which is said copolymer of ethylene comprises an ethylene butyl acrylate (EBA), an ethylene ethyl acrylate (EEA) or an ethylene methyl acrylate (EMA) each with a copolymer and the acrylate content of in said copolymer of ethylene is 10% - 35% by weight, and wherein the copolymer content of said copolymer of ethylene in the insulating coating on the cable is between 1 and 8% by weight.

2. (original): A method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the granulate mixture is coated with a liquid mixture of silane, peroxide and possibly a stabilizer prior to a compounding process.

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3. (original): A method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the granulate mixture is coated with a liquid mixture of silane, peroxide and possibly a stabilizer during the compounding process.
4. (original): A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the granulate material coated with the cross-linking agent is grafted, homogenized and subsequently regranulated.
5. (previously presented): A method as claimed in claim 4, wherein the regranulate provided with a catalyst or a catalyst batch is introduced into an extruder, extruded onto the electrical conductor, and the coating extruded onto the electrical conductor is cross-linked in the presence of water or steam.
6. (previously presented): A method as claimed in claim 4, wherein the granular polyethylene homopolymer material alone is coated with the liquid cross-linking agent in a compounding system, melted, grafted, homogenized and subsequently regranulated, and the regranulate and a granular copolymer of ethylene, and a catalyst, are placed into an extruder, where the mixture is melted, homogenized and extruded onto the electrical conductor and cross-linked.

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7. (cancelled).

8. (previously presented): A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein a granular material of polyethylene homopolymer and copolymer of ethylene is placed into an extruder, a liquid mixture of silane, peroxide and possibly a stabilizer as well as a catalyst or a highly concentrated catalyst batch is likewise placed into the extruder, and the mixture is melted, grafted and homogenized in the extruder, and the grafted, homogenized material is extruded onto the electrical conductor and cross-linked in the presence of water or steam.

9. (cancelled).